

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 EURE-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 L-02 PM-03

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 PRS-01 MBFR-02

SAJ-01 ACDA-10 RSR-01 /066 W
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P R 201719Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6419

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 10387

LIMDIS NOFORN

E.O. 11652: X-GDS-1

TAGS: US, GW, UK, FR, EEC

SUBJECT: US/EUROPEAN RELATIONS AND DE FACTO
QUADRIpartite COOPERATION.

REF: BONN 10173

SUMMARY: FROM RECENT TALKS WITH OFFICIALS IN BONN,
THERE APPEARS TO BE AN EMERGING CONCEPT THAT THE FOUR
KEY ALLIANCE PARTNERS--US, UK, FRG AND FRANCE--SHOULD
LEAD THE WAY IN DEVELOPING DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES
IN CONNECTION WITH THE PRESIDENT'S AUTUMN VISIT TO
EUROPE. SOME GERMAN OFFICIALS ALSO BELIEVE THAT
CAREFUL USE OF DE FACTO QUADRIpartite APPROACH MIGHT
HAVE OTHER BENEFICIAL EFFECTS FOR EUROPEAN UNIFICATION
AND US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. OUR CONTACTS WITH FONOFF OFFICIALS PROVIDE A
DIMENSION OF THE DEVELOPING US/EUROPEAN DIALOGUE
ADDITIONAL TO THAT REPORTED IN THE REFTEL ACCOUNT OF
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SCHEEL VISIT TO WASHINGTON. THE BASIC IDEA APPARENTLY

EMERGING IN BONN IS THAT THE FOUR KEY ALLIANCE PARTNERS--US, UK, FRG AND FRANCE--SHOULD LEAD THE WAY IN DEVELOPING A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES, WHICH WOULD HOPEFULLY BE BLESSED BY THE NATO COUNCIL BEFORE THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO EUROPE. IF THE DECLARATION IS NOT READY BY THE TIME OF THE VISIT, A COMMUNIQUE ISSUED FOLLOWING THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT COULD ANNOUNCE THAT A DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES WOULD BE FORTHCOMING AT AN EARLY TIME, PROBABLY BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR. BUT OUR FONOFF SOURCES EMPHASIZE THEIR CONCEPT WAS ONE OF A QUADRIPARTITE APPROACH WHICH SEEKS TO PROMOTE A CONSTRUCTIVE FRENCH ROLE, AND NOT, AS REFLECTED IN SOME PRESS REPORTS, OF THE GERMANS TAKING THE LEAD TO PRESS PARIS ON THE DECLARATION.

2. THESE QUADRIPARTITE EFFORTS WOULD BE CARRIED OUT THROUGH INFORMAL AND UNPUBLICIZED MEETINGS THAT WOULD INCLUDE EXCHANGES OF DRAFT TEXTS. ONCE THESE MULTIPLE BILATERAL CONTACTS LEAD TO CONSENSUS AMONG THE ALLIANCE'S MAIN FOUR POWERS, IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO CONVENE SOME TYPE OF MULTILATERAL MEETING OF NATO DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTERS OR, GIVEN FRENCH DEMANDS, PERHAPS THE FIFTEEN POLITICAL DIRECTORS. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT AMBASSADOR BRUNNER, CHIEF OF BOTH THE FONOFF POLICY PLANNING STAFF AND FRG CSCE DEL AS WELL AS THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S KEY PROTEGE, REPORTEDLY HAS BEEN ASSIGNED BY SCHEEL TO REPRESENT THE FRG IN INFORMAL MEETINGS CONCERNING THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES WITH HIS US, BRITISH AND FRENCH COLLEAGUES. BRUNNER REPORTEDLY VISITED PARIS AND LONDON, JULY 17-18, FOR SUCH DISCUSSIONS AND WILL BE WITH SCHEEL AT THE JULY 23 COPENHAGEN MEETING OF EC-NINE FOREIGN MINISTERS.

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3. SOME OF OUR SOURCES ARE HINTING THAT THE KIND OF DE FACTO QUADRIpartite APPROACH DESCRIBED ABOVE MIGHT ALSO BE RELEVANT TO OTHER ALLIANCE PROBLEMS AND MIGHT PROVIDE A HANDY VEHICLE TO BRING FRANCE BACK TO CLOSER ALLIANCE COOPERATION, ALBEIT PROBABLY NOT MILITARY REINTEGRATION. THIS THINKING REPRESENTS A REACTION TO, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE JOBERT SPEECH TO THE FRENCH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND THE BELIEF OF SOME GERMAN OFFICIALS THAT PARIS PRESENTLY IS ENGAGED IN A REEVALUATION OF ITS FUTURE SECURITY POLICY. THESE GERMAN OFFICIALS CONSIDER THAT THIS DE FACTO QUADRIpartite COOPERATION MIGHT FORM A BASIS FOR FURTHER COOPERATIVE EFFORTS IN THE FIELD OF EUROPEAN UNIFICATION AND MIGHT EVEN BE OF USE IN IMPROVING US/WEST EUROPEAN RELATIONS GENERALLY. THESE OFFICIALS RECOGNIZE THAT THIS PROCESS COULD BE BOTH DIFFICULT AND DELICATE, AND WOULD REQUIRE THAT THE NEEDS OF SMALLER ALLIANCE POWERS BE TAKEN FULLY INTO ACCOUNT. WHETHER THESE BROADER IMPLICATIONS OF DE FACTO QUADRIpartite COOPERATION EVER
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AMOUNT TO ANYTHING SUBSTANTIAL PROBABLY WILL DEPEND HEAVILY, THE OFFICIALS FEEL, ON THE RESULTS OF THE EXERCISE ON THE DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES, AS WELL AS ON THE FUTURE ORIENTATION OF FRENCH FOREIGN POLICY.
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